

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 63.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Julie A. Su, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Labor.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 63, Julie A. Su, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Labor.

Charles E. Schumer, Patty Murray, Jacky Rosen, John Hickenlooper, Tammy Baldwin, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Raphael Warnock, Benjamin L. Cardin, Chris Van Hollen, Martin Heinrich, Christopher Murphy, Sheldon Whitehouse, Bernard Sanders, Jeff Merkley, Margaret Wood Hassan.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, June 24, be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

I yield the floor to Mr. CHRISTOPHER COONS, D., Delaware.

Mr. CHRISTOPHER A. COONS?

Mr. COONS. CHRISTOPHER A. COONS. Thank you, Mr. CHARLES E. SCHUMER.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware is recognized.

GROWING CLIMATE SOLUTIONS ACT OF 2021

Mr. COONS. Madam President, today has been great day for the American

people, a great day for our democracy and for bipartisanship. Some of you may know that just hours ago, over at the White House, a determined group of Republicans and Democrats, led by Senator KYRSTEN SINEMA, Senator ROB PORTMAN, Senator JOE MANCHIN, Senator SUSAN COLLINS, and a number of others, announced a deal on an infrastructure package with the White House that represents the largest investment in infrastructure in a generation.

This is a big accomplishment that I will talk about in a few moments, but I also want to bring attention to something that happened earlier today on the floor here that may just go overlooked because of the other important news of the day.

By a vote of 92 to 8, this Senate passed the Growing Climate Solutions Act, introduced by my friend and colleague from Michigan Senator DEBBIE STABENOW, the chair of the Agriculture Committee, and my friend and colleague from Indiana Senator MIKE BRAUN, who is my cochair of the Climate Solutions Caucus.

This bill, the Growing Climate Solutions Act, is a great example of how we can bring everyone to the table to find common ground on solutions that will protect our environment, help create jobs, and combat climate change.

It will help farmers and foresters in Delaware, in Michigan, in Texas, across our whole country, and we will benefit from changes in the way that they care for their land or forests, and it will help them to participate in carbon credit markets. It will provide a framework for rewarding America's farms and forests, and those who tend them, for climate-smart practices.

This is a commonsense, broadly bipartisan bill that will help us create a more sustainable future for our communities, our country, and our planet, with our farmers and our agriculture community taking the lead.

It reminds me of another signature moment that happened just at the very end of last year when, in December, the bipartisan Energy Act of 2020 was passed. Senators MURKOWSKI and MANCHIN shepherded that into law late last year, and it modernizes our country's energy policies across a dozen different major areas.

Each of these bills—the Growing Climate Solutions Act and the Energy Act of 2020—were, in part, fostered by the bipartisan Senate Climate Solutions Caucus. Founded in 2019, this caucus has held more than 30 events and meetings, including many focused on natural climate solutions such as the Growing Climate Solutions Act.

Every Member, all 14 Members, of this bipartisan caucus cosponsored the Growing Climate Solutions Act, and I applaud Senators STABENOW and BRAUN for building a significant coalition here in the Senate to support it, a coalition that ranged from some of the most engaged and active environmental groups to the American Farm Bureau, one of

the strongest voices for America's agricultural community.

Our work on climate is far from done. Members of the Climate Solutions Caucus have introduced a whole series of bipartisan bills that would promote natural climate solutions. Senator PORTMAN and I have the Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Reauthorization Act; Senator SHAHEEN is leading the Forest Incentives Program Act; Senator RUBIO, the Restoring Resilient Reefs Act; and many more.

We should advance these and many other bipartisan bills that every Member of our caucus supports and on which we are taking the lead. Let me be clear. I support bold action on climate. I support President Biden's climate agenda. And there are many more things we can and should do, but I think it is possible for us to both move ahead on those things that have enduring bipartisan support in this Chamber and across the country and to move ahead on those things that perhaps do not yet enjoy bipartisan support but where the need to act is urgent.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. COONS. Madam President, let me also, if I can, speak for a few more moments about the historic deal reached earlier today on infrastructure.

This is about creating jobs. This is about investing in our economy and our communities and our country, and this is about strengthening the United States globally against our adversaries and competitors.

I need not remind you that just 1 year ago public health and economic crises created by the COVID-19 pandemic were ravaging communities all over our Nation. And today, under the leadership of the Biden administration, COVID-19 cases and deaths are down by over 90 percent. More than 70 percent of adults over the age of 30 have been vaccinated. As a result, businesses are opening, communities are opening, States are opening, our unemployment rate has come down significantly, and our economy is recovering at a robust pace.

But if our economy is going to be sustainable, if it is going to be long term, if it is going to be robust, we have to make long-overdue investments in infrastructure. Globally, the United States now ranks 13th in infrastructure. In every State, we have roads, bridges, tunnels, and water systems that are crumbling or aged. Just in my little State of Delaware, we have more than 200 miles of highway deemed in poor condition.

And as the climate continues to change, low-lying States like mine are particularly susceptible to increased damage. We had more than 10 extreme weather events causing up to \$2 billion of damage in the last decade, and a lot of that damaged our infrastructure because it is built right up against the waterways, the coasts, the bays.

We have one of the most important rail lines in the entire country, the